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Subject: Public Key Messages for Today, 4/20 - fyi; cleared by DGray
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Key Messages – 4/20/13

EPA is working closely with our regulatory partner - TCEQ and our senior management is in close communication. Chairman Shaw and Regional Administrator spoke yesterday (4/19). The EPA technical team is working with TCEQ response personnel to conduct air monitoring.

All data is going to the State agencies (Department of Safety, Department of Health, TCEQ) to guide decision-making.

EPA got the company's Risk Management Plan two years ago and reviewed it. The worse case scenario was an accidental release of all 54,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia into the community. At room temperature, anhydrous ammonia is a gas. This scenario is a plausible worse-case scenario as gaseous anhydrous ammonia can be lethal.

Clean Air Act (CAA) 112r requires a facility to address catastrophic accidental air releases of chemicals in its Risk Management Plan. Ammonium nitrate, a solid, is not currently a chemical material addressed by this provision of the CAA. We do not yet know what happened at this facility. The ongoing investigation will inform us on the plan's adequacy. In addition, the investigation will review if there are any violations. Based on the results of this investigation, EPA will review if changes are required.